(*b*) the Government received representations from the residents of other cheris in the city to secure for them permanent occupancy rights, and, if so, from what cheris, and what orders have been passed in each case.

A.—(*a*) The Corporation was informed that the Government were unable to sanction any loan for the purpose and that the Corporation might raise the loan in the open market.

(*b*) Memorials have been received from the inhabitants of Hall's Gardens, Thousand Lights, Flowers Road and Thundu cheris. The Commissioner of Labour has been directed to arrange proper terms with the landlords and, if this is not possible, to submit proposals for acquisition in all cases in which eviction is contemplated of tenants from the sites of which they have been in occupation for a long period and in which they have made substantial improvements.

Report of Collector of Bellary on season, etc., and that of Mr. Buckley.

490 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: To ask the Hon'ble the Member for Revenue to lay on the table the several reports of the Collector of Bellary sent from time to time during the current fasli on the state of the season and the condition of the people in the affected taluks of the Bellary district, and the reports from Mr. Buckley also, if he has sent any.

A.—The reports will be placed on the Editors' Table.

Tiffin-room for Secretariat staff.

491 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: To ask the Hon'ble the Finance Member to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the tiffin-rooms provided for the Secretariat staff were demolished in 1909, when the Council Chamber was constructed; and

(*b*) whether new rooms have been provided for use of the staff in the place of the old ones demolished, and, if the answer is in the negative, when new rooms are likely to be built.

A.—(*a*) Yes. The tiffin-rooms were demolished about the year 1910 when the new Council Chamber was constructed.

(*b*) No, but the question of a suitable site for the construction of a tiffin-shed has been under consideration for some time past. As however the Military authorities have recently handed over a large block in the Fort for the use of the Secretariat, it is hoped now to provide accommodation for tiffin-rooms within the Fort 'without further building'.

Buckingham canal.

492 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: To ask the Hon'ble the Revenue Member to state the probable income from, and the expenses incurred on, the Buckingham canal during the last ten years.

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A.—A statement showing the receipts from and the expenses incurred on the Buckingham canal for the years 1910–11 to 1919–20 is laid on the table.*

Licences for firearms.

493 *Q.*—Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI: To ask the Hon'ble the Home Member to state—

(*a*) what the total number is of licences for firearms which were in force in the months of December 1918, December 1919 and December 1920 in the Anantapur district;

(*b*) out of the total number of licences in force in December 1920 in the Anantapur district, how many were renewals for over ten years successively;

(*c*) what the total number is of applications for licences of firearms received by the Collector of the Anantapur district for the current year up to the end of January 1921; how many of them were for original licences and how many for renewals;

(*d*) of those rejected how many were from applicants who had their licences renewed for over ten years successively;

(*e*) out of the total number rejected how many were so rejected on ex-parte police reports;

(*f*) if the Government will be pleased to consider the advisability of appointing two or more of non-official advisers to help the District Magistrate in granting licences for firearms.

A.—(*a*) The number of licences in force during the year 1918 was 1,828.
„ „ 1919 was 1,758.
„ „ 1920 was 1,840.

(*b*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information.

(*f*) The Government are unable to accept the suggestion.

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—"With regard to clauses (*b*) to (*e*), will the Government be pleased to call for information?"

The Hon'ble Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON:—"If the Honourable Member can satisfy me that any useful purpose will be served by calling for all this information, I will consider the question; but I observe from the wording of the clauses of the question that the main point seems to be only about clauses (*d*) and (*e*)."

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—"Am I to do it by means of separate communication?"

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT:—"Separate communication, I presume."

Pay of elementary teachers.

494 *Q.*—Mr. S. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: To ask the Hon'ble the Minister for Education what action the Government propose to take in connexion with the memorials of elementary teachers for higher pay.

* Vide Appendix II on page 1025 infra.